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REPUBLICAN STEERING COMMITTEE
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4306

June 2, 2003

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE
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HEALTH

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE
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SPACE AND AERONAUTICS

Secretary Spencer Abraham
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: DOE's Private & Local Government Fleet Determination (Docket No. EE-RM-FCVT-03-001)

Dear Secretary Abraham:

This letter is to express support for the determination you have proposed in the above referenced proceeding.

As you may be aware, at a different point in the evolution of this issue, I had proposed legislation that is consistent with your determination. Section 402 of H.R. 4288 of the 104th Congress stated that: (1) a viable, sustainable market for natural gas and other low emission vehicles requires cooperative efforts by and among fleet operators and other users, fuel providers, and vehicle manufacturers; (2) government mandates requiring private sector fleet purchases do not support such cooperative efforts; (3) the low emission vehicle market should be based on voluntary, economically sound decisions; and (4) market-oriented incentives can provide an appropriate and effective means for developing a self-sustaining market for such vehicles and fuels.

I commend you on your work in this proceeding. Should you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me or have your staff contact our staff at (202) 226-2424.

Sincerely,

Joe Barton
Chairman

Subcommittee on Energy and Air Quality

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